

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 7-12 are presently active in this case.

In the outstanding office action, the drawings were objected to because Figs. 1, 2, and 14 were not designated as "Prior Art;" and claims 7-12 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Jung et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,317,173).

In response to the objections of the drawings, submitted herewith are three replacement sheets wherein Figs. 1, 2, and 14 have been identified as "Prior Art."

Briefly recapitulating, the present invention (illustrated by way of the non-limiting example of Fig. 11) provides first wiring layer 73 connected to an auxiliary capacity electrodes 66, a second wiring layer 74 connected to a switching element 68 and the first wiring layer 73, and a third wiring layer 76 connected to an upper electrode 75 connected to the pixel electrode and the switching element 68. The first wiring layer 73 and the second wiring layer 74 are formed on different layers from each other.

This configuration enables a short-circuit defect between the auxiliary capacity electrode and an auxiliary capacity feeder to be corrected prior to forming a cell by irradiating a laser beam on the upper side of the substrate in order to cut the second wiring layer. If a short circuit is detected after formation of the cell, a laser can be applied to the lower side of the array substrate to cut the first wiring layer. See page 12 lines 19-28 of the Specification.

In contradistinction thereto, Applicants submit that Jung et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,317,173) does not disclose first, second, and third wiring layers as defined by claim 7. The Official Action asserts that "storage electrode 440" and "gate insulating film 300" of Fig. 51 in Jung et al. correspond to the first wiring layer. The "storage electrode 440," however, is

not connected to the switching element and is distinct from the first wiring layer defined by claim 7. Applicants submit that the term “electrode” refers to one end of an object. That is, an “electrode” is distinct from the wiring which forms a conduction path for connecting two distinct points. Further, the “storage electrode 440” of Jung et al. corresponds to the auxiliary capacity electrodes of the present invention and the “storage electrode 440” is distinct from the first wiring layer defined by claim 7.

Further, the Official Action asserts that “the gate insulating film is a plated metal.” Applicants traverse and respectfully submit that the “gate insulating film 300” of Jung et al. is an insulator. Accordingly, the “gate insulating film 300” is distinct from the first wiring layer defined by claim 7 as it is not a connector.

The Official Action further asserts that elements 210, 220, and 230 of Fig. 51 in Jung et al. correspond to the second wiring layer. Applicants traverse that assertion. Applicants submit that element 210 is the source electrode of the switching element, element 220 is the channel region of the switching element, and element 230 is the drain electrode of the switching element. Hence, those elements are the switching elements, but they are not wiring layers.

Finally, the Official Action asserts that Jung et al. disclose in Fig. 51 the third wiring layer and the upper electrode. Although the “second electrode” of Fig. 51 is connected to the pixel electrode 800, Jung et al. fail to disclose or suggest a wiring layer for connecting the “second electrode” and the switching element. Accordingly, Jung et al. are not believed to anticipate or render obvious the subject matter of the present invention. Claims 8-12 are believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 7.

Consequently, no other issues are believed to be outstanding and hence the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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